

The next day, Tuesday, January 27, 1998, the OIC filed a motion requesting a limited intervention in the Jones case so that the OIC could conduct its criminal investigation without interference.<sup>271</sup> Two days later, on Thursday, January 29, 1998, the OIC filed a motion to stay discovery in the Jones case, requesting Judge Wright to stay discovery pending resolution of the related criminal investigation.<sup>272</sup>

That same day, Thursday, January 29, 1998, Judge Wright held a hearing at which counsel for the parties and the OIC were present. Judge Wright issued an order later that day in which she observed that "OIC's motion comes with less than 48 hours left in the period for conducting discovery, the cutoff date being January 30, 1998." For this reason, Judge Wright stated that she was required to rule on the admissibility of the Monica Lewinsky evidence at that time. Citing Federal Rule of Evidence 403, which requires a judge to weigh the probative value of evidence against the prejudice it may cause, Judge Wright concluded:

[Rule 403]'s weighing process compels the conclusion that evidence concerning Monica Lewinsky should be excluded from the trial of this matter.

The Court acknowledges that evidence concerning Monica Lewinsky might be relevant to the issues in this case. This Court would await resolution of the criminal investigation currently underway if the Lewinsky evidence were essential to the plaintiff's

---

<sup>271</sup> See Motion of the United States for Limited Intervention and for Modification of October 30, 1997 Protective Order.

<sup>272</sup> See Motion of the United States for Limited Intervention and a Stay of Discovery.